

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 233

By Gresham

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Larry Harrell of Hardin County.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Larry Harrell; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Harrell was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, born in Bolivar in 1940 to Gale and Hazel Harrell, Larry Harrell began his career with the United States Air Force at radio and electronics school at Keesler Air Force Base in Mississippi; he was then assigned to Japan, where he served in the Tokyo area and on Iwo Jima as a flight facilities equipment repairman; and

WHEREAS, in 1962, he was selected for the Airman Education Commissioning Program and was sent to the University of Oklahoma, where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in electrical engineering; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Harrell then worked in medical research on space and aircraft escape systems at Wright Patterson Air Force Base for four years; while stationed at Wright Patterson, he earned his master's degree in electrical engineering; and

WHEREAS, in 1969, he served one year as the ground electronics installation officer for the Air Force in Vietnam, where he managed and supervised a team of about 200 men and up to twenty-five installation teams; and

WHEREAS, Larry Harrell then went to Fort Worth, Texas, to work on the initial deployment of the FB-111A, an all-weather bomber, before moving to Seattle to work on the B-1 Bomber avionics development at the Boeing Plant, where he was the Strategic Air Command

representative; he also worked with Boeing in Wichita, Kansas, where he was training and support manager for several B-52, KC135, and NASA projects; and

WHEREAS, in 1975, Mr. Harrell was detailed to NASA to work on the space shuttle program at Kennedy Space Center as logistics engineering manager; in 1979, he retired from the United States Air Force at the rank of major and stayed on at NASA in this capacity; and

WHEREAS, Larry Harrell then became logistics manager, and later base manager, for Condor, an experimental high altitude unmanned vehicle, before moving to Huntsville, Alabama, to become the logistics manager for the Simulation and Training Division for Boeing, where he supported several NASA, Air Force, Army, Navy, and other military programs; and

WHEREAS, he was also the training system proposal manager for the F-22 joint proposal between Lockheed and Boeing and managed on several military/commercial conversions and space station projects; and

WHEREAS, after retiring from his engineering career, Larry Harrell settled in Hardin County, where he became heavily involved within the community; he was involved in the first Tennessee River Run benefitting the Darryl Worley Foundation. Every year, Mr. Harrell presented the Darryl Worley Foundation scholarship at Awards Day at Hardin County High School; and

WHEREAS, in 2002, he was made executive director of the foundation and was dedicated to his volunteer work with the organization even into the later stages of his sickness; he had his work set up at his home and continued working with the foundation as a consultant as his health permitted; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his tireless sixteen years of volunteer work with the Darryl Worley Foundation, Larry Harrell was a board member for Country Christmas, Raise the Flag, and Coats for Kids; he was an active Rotarian and served as commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2949 and officer of Veterans of Foreign Wars District 8; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Harrell was also deeply devoted to his family and his community, and he always endeavored to remain true to values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his great-niece, Ashley Ryan; and

WHEREAS, he is survived by his sister, Beverly Russell; his nieces, Diana Conner, Amy McCall, and Michael Ann Russell; his great-nieces and nephews, Amanda Crews, Maribeth Harris, Megan Ryan, Shelby McCall, Danielle Marcotte, Jonathan McCall, and Linda Conner; and his great-great niece and nephew, Madison Harris and Connor Crews; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Larry Harrell leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory and commend the service of Larry Harrell, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Harrell.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.